

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS
THIRD SERIES

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Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, President 1937-'39. The Presidential Portrait by Augustus John

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Journal

INFORMAL MEETING

An Informal Meeting will be held on Monday, 23 October 1939, at 4 p.m. for the purpose of a general discussion on the position of the profession in relation to the war. The President will be in the Chair and any members who are interested in the subject are invited to attend and express their views.

THE WAR AND THE R.I.B.A.

Following these notes is a statement by the President, issued about three weeks ago, outlining the Institute's range of activities in the immediate future.

When war started it was necessary for the Institute to act with caution, and for a time to suspend "normal activities." Particularly at that moment the whole of the staff was fully engaged, except for those who had been called up, on the emergency work of making the building safe and protecting the library, and on administrative and consultative emergency work on behalf of members.

The new war-time life of the Institute will be lived vigorously. War conditions certainly can mean no diminution of the central task of the R.I.B.A. to maintain the prestige and to fight the causes of architects, even if, as is inevitable and proper, the prestige and the causes may for a time be absorbed into the bigger causes. This is not merely "business as usual," but a diversion of the architect's usual business to special needs. It is important to bear this in mind, architecture and the organisations that have served its causes in peace are not less but more needed now. An article on another page enlarges this argument. Here special reference only can be made to what the Institute organisation as such will be doing.

At the meeting of Council on 9 October the War Executive was appointed, to consist of the present

Executive Committee to which are added the two Vice-Presidents not previously on the Executive. The committee, therefore, will be as follows :—

Mr. E. Stanley Hall (*President*) ; Mr. W. H. Ansell (*Hon. Secretary*) ; Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan (*Hon. Treasurer*) ; Mr. Hubert Lidbetter (*Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education*) ; Mr. Charles G. Soutar (*Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference*).

And the following Members of the Council :—

Messrs. C. F. Bates, T. A. Darcy Braddell, A. C. Bunch, R. A. Duncan, Professor W. G. Holford, Messrs. A. H. Moberly, Norval R. Paxton, C. G. Stillman, with the two Vice-Presidents mentioned above, Mr. Edward Maufe and Mr. Howard M. Robertson.

It is not proposed that the Committee shall meet on fixed dates but as often as is necessary and possible.

THE JOURNAL

The JOURNAL, as this number shows, will continue as completely as possible. At the moment that means that it will continue in its present form, slightly reduced only in size. The subject matter will quite naturally be concerned to a great extent with war needs, and in each number we hope to provide special technical information on those kinds of buildings on which architects are being employed ; but in war all cultural interests, all discussion on personalities and policies need not be snuffed out or subjugated to the single war cause ; there will and must be time for the general ideals of architecture to be debated so that a profession can come out of the war not less but more aware of the wider objectives of architecture, and more not less prepared to progress than the profession that now goes in. It would be very nice if culture could grow while men kill each other, or even like the corn reputed to lie for a millennium in a Pharaoh's tomb, flower

after such neglect. But cultural things need constant tending (the word means that), and in so far as this journal can play a part, it will be there to do so.*

THE LIBRARY

The library has moved to the reception room. The "holy books" are safely preserved, and the immediately useful books kept for use, even if they are liable to damage from bombs. Our task has been to balance out the need for use now and the desirability of preserving in almost complete safety whatever we can for post-war use. The present scheme is a compromise. Unfortunately the library rooms at the top of the building are exposed, so that the books, if left there, would be in unnecessary danger; the rooms are expensive to heat and light, at a time when most rigorous economies must be made, and they are difficult and expensive to darken. Chiefly on account of its exposed position, the larger part of the library has been moved to safety, but a selection has been made of all the technical works likely to be of use in war-time. These with the whole of the loan library and all the more important periodicals back to 1934 will be available. The loan library will work as usual, and for the time being the Institute will continue to pay outward postage on books sent to members outside the London area. Arrangements will be made by which members in the London area can return books or collect previously ordered books at times when the library is not open. This will be necessary to save London members and students of the R.I.B.A. itself incurring a considerable increase in postage charges because during the winter the R.I.B.A. office hours will close before sunset.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

On page 1006 a special note outlines the work of the Board of Architectural Education and the British Architectural Schools. No part of the Institute's work is more important than this maintenance of continuity in education. The same arguments that have been made on the necessity for us to bear peace-time needs in mind apply with double force when education is in question. As one of the leading teachers in the profession has put it: "It is the student's privilege to enlist—but advice and persuasion should all be the other way."

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Since the start of war the Institute office has been notified of between three and four hundred changes of members' addresses, some permanent for the "duration," some temporary, some only prospective, "if bombing starts." We have decided not to attempt piecemeal publication, but to wait a few weeks until there is more

* Members who wish to contribute are asked to write to the Editor.

settlement than there is at present, and then to publish a complete list of war-time addresses, which can be filed as a supplement to the Kalendar. All members are asked to keep the R.I.B.A. notified of changes of address both for R.I.B.A. office purposes and so that the National Service Register can be accurate and up to date in this respect.

JOURNAL INDEX AND BINDING

The October number of the JOURNAL usually contains the volume index. This year, as an economy, the index is being printed separately and inset into the journals only of Libraries and Allied Societies, who probably bind their volumes. All other members who want copies of the index can obtain them from the R.I.B.A. free of cost. They should write to the Editor.

The arrangements made to supply recipients of the JOURNAL with bound volumes have, also, been changed this year to effect economies and to make the business simpler for members. Those who want to obtain volumes bound *in paper sides with a linen back* can obtain them at the cost of three shillings. Volumes *fully bound in buckram with gilt lettering* can be obtained for six shillings and sixpence, and *binding cases*, to enable members to bind their own journals, for three shillings and sixpence. In previous years it has been necessary to ask members requiring these bound volumes to return their loose numbers, but in order to save members the trouble and expense of doing so, and to relieve the postal service this year, no loose numbers need be returned. Orders should be sent to the R.I.B.A. as soon as possible. In order to avoid waste, the full binding order cannot be given to the binders until we know more or less how many volumes will be wanted, so if members do not reply soon there will be considerable delay in delivery.

R.I.B.A. KALENDAR, 1939-40

Several copies of the Kalendar have been returned through the Post Office or by the carriers owing to members having left temporarily their usual addresses. Members who have not yet received their copies of the Kalendar are requested to notify the Secretary, R.I.B.A.

REVIEW OF PERIODICALS

As the R.I.B.A. wishes to do everything it can to continue its services to members during the war, and since the maintenance of sources of information in these times becomes even more vitally important, it is hoped that it will be possible to continue to publish the Reviews of Periodicals in the JOURNAL and to issue the reprints to subscribers. It is very much hoped that members who subscribe will continue to do so.

THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The following statement on R.I.B.A. activity at the present time was issued by the President on 22 September; since that date most of the "intentions" have been carried into effect and endorsed by the Council on 10 October. Arrangements for the continuation of examinations are complete, the library is now fully organised on its war-time basis, the JOURNAL is here to show that it is alive.

Members of the R.I.B.A. will have received within the last few days their copy of the JOURNAL of 18 September. The Editor states that his notes were written scarcely two days after the start of the war, at a time when the R.I.B.A., like all other public bodies, had to be prepared for intense aerial bombardment to follow the outbreak of war. The building was therefore immediately put in a state of preparedness in accordance with a preconceived plan, and arrangements were made for maintaining the essential services in the basement and ground floor.

Happily the air raids have not yet materialised; and the honorary officers of the R.I.B.A., consisting of the President, three London Vice-Presidents, the Hon. Secretary, and the Hon. Treasurer, who met to deal with the emergency, have been able to reconsider some of the measures taken.

The war started when the Council and all Committees were in vacation. The first normal meeting of the Executive Committee is on 9 October, and of the Council on 23 October. It is intended that the dates of these meetings shall be advanced. It is anticipated that the work of the R.I.B.A. will be administered by an Emergency Executive Committee, which will almost of necessity consist of the members of the Executive who are within reach of town, augmented by the Honorary Officials of the R.I.B.A. who are not already members of the Executive.

The following are the proposals of the Emergency Committee:

EDUCATION

Replies to enquiries sent out to the various Schools of Architecture have now been received to the effect that nearly all schools are remaining open, though in some cases they are moving out of the vulnerable areas. The Officers of the R.I.B.A., therefore, feel strongly that they should also continue to hold examinations as long as possible so that non-school students may have the same advantages as others in being able to take their examinations while wait-

ing, perhaps, to be called up. This will mean that the work of the Board of Architectural Education will also continue. It is intended that the examinations should be held both in London and in provincial centres, in order to minimise the amount of travelling for students. There will also be a strong recommendation from the Emergency War Committee to the Council that the Tite Prize and the Archibald Dawnay Scholarships be awarded, and that the competition for the Soane Medallion be held, with an extended time to cover the dislocation caused by the outbreak of war.

LIBRARY

It has been stated in the last JOURNAL that the Library will be open for technical information. It is proposed also to maintain a modified Library service, which will include current periodicals and all books likely to be required by students.

JOURNAL

The Emergency Committee have made further enquiries as to the relative cost of issuing the JOURNAL monthly, or alternatively a monthly bulletin; and it has been decided to continue to issue the JOURNAL as long as possible, in order to retain contact with members.

CONTRACTS

Enquiries have been received as to the position of parties to contracts as affected by the outbreak of war. Others have written asking for a new Form of Contract suitable for war work. Both these matters are in the hands of the Officers of the Practice Committee and the Contracts Tribunal, and further information will be published.

CONTACT WITH GOVERNMENT

The R.I.B.A. is represented on all Government Committees affecting the building industry, including the central committees dealing with personnel and all problems of A.R.P. Every opportunity has been taken of ensuring the employment of architects in capacities for which they are best

qualified, and a large number of appointments have been made. This work is continuing.

THE REGISTER OF ARCHITECTS

Considerable doubt prevails as to what is meant by "reserving" architects, and what is the work for which they are reserved. The Ministry of Labour recently published a revised Schedule of Reserved Occupations, in which pupil architects were reserved at the age of 25 and over, and architectural draughtsmen at the age of 21, while the reserved age of qualified architects remained at 30. These reservations made it impossible for younger and less experienced members of the profession to join the Armed Forces, or to accept whole-time employment in any other capacity. The situation thus created appeared to be undesirable, and as a result of representations to the Ministry of Labour the age limit for all persons in the architectural profession has been fixed at 30. This means that no architect of 30 and over will be accepted for whole-time war service unless he joins the Armed Forces or the Fire Brigade on the normal long term service, or applies for war service "in scientific or professional occupations in his scientific or professional capacity," e.g., in the R.E. or R.A. Survey Section. The R.I.B.A. will continue to advise members in regard to service and will publish any variation in the present arrangements.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Committee are very much alive to the possibility of widespread unemployment among

architects. In conjunction with the A.A., the R.I.B.A. is endeavouring to arrange for the employment of groups of architects working as teams in connection with A.R.P. work, and the Government insurance scheme when this materialises. The Architects' Benevolent Society has had one meeting since the outbreak of war, and is also exploring the possibilities of finding work for architects. An early opportunity will be taken of urging that private work in the building industry may be encouraged as soon as urgent war work is disposed of.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS, ETC.

It is most important that members aged 30 and over should notify the R.I.B.A. from time to time not only of any change of address, but also of any appointment accepted or relinquished, in order that the Register may be kept fully up to date, and that there may be a record of all members free or otherwise to accept employment as requests come from Government or other authorities to the Ministry of Labour.

The R.I.B.A. will also maintain the Appointments Register of architects seeking employment.

THE R.I.B.A. STAFF

The staff has been depleted by a number who have already taken up war duties, and others will doubtless follow. The Finance and House Committees have met and are watching all matters of personnel and salaries.

In spite of these depletions, the R.I.B.A. is at the service of the profession to the utmost of its ability.

THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT WAS PUBLISHED IN "THE TIMES" OF 9 OCTOBER

THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

To the Editor of "The Times."

SIR,—Your timely leading article on "Bureaucracy and Business" ends with the words: "even in 1918, when the production of munitions reached its peak, the production of other things was not, and could not be, wholly neglected. Nor can it be wholly neglected to-day."

The building industry, in its component parts of architects, quantity surveyors, contractors, suppliers of building materials, and operatives—falls behind no industry in its determination to subordinate all other operations to the one aim of winning the war. The normal annual expenditure in this industry is £225,000,000, and in many parts of England work is, for the moment at least, at a standstill. If the aftermath

of the last war is any criterion, the cost of building will advance by leaps and bounds on the resumption of peace, and what may cost £1,000 now may very well cost £2,000 then.

The professional men, contractors, and employees will gladly put aside all personal considerations in their desire to win the war; but while, and where they are remaining idle they would welcome encouragement from the Government to proceed on their lawful occasions at least until such time as they are wanted for more urgent work. Nothing is more discouraging than to stand idle when there is work to be done and when the doing of it now would be an economy in the long run.

Yours faithfully,

E. STANLEY HALL,
President R.I.B.A.

WHAT ARCHITECTURE CAN DO

This article, which in no way represents an official R.I.B.A. point of view, is an attempt to sketch some ideas of the war-time place and peace-time hopes of architecture and architects. The bases of architecture are not changeless, perhaps they are changing under our noses now. Unless a watch is kept on the movements and unless we are intellectually and spiritually conscious of the issues inside and outside the profession that are affecting our life and work the power we have to respond is dangerously limited

One of the central tasks of the R.I.B.A. always has been to make the country aware of what architecture is and what architecture can do. Perhaps we ourselves have not always known just what we were fighting for but variation of opinion within the profession has been a stimulating feature not to be regretted. Now more clearly defined aims may be necessary. Many architects must be asking themselves whether the increased prestige gained in peace has had effect in ensuring full recognition now for the contribution that architects can make in the task of war winning—and in the task of preparing for peace.

We have one thing now, the National Service Register, which we did not have in 1914, and can gain a certain amount of confidence from this safeguard which will be used to the fullest possible extent. But something more is wanted than a safeguard: there is a risk that unless the profession corporately succeeds in making the full value of its services known architects will be used too often merely in supervisory capacities, to place dreary unarchitectural prefabricated huts on sites and arrange drainage and services; that they will be used only as clerks-of-works or as engineers and not as architects. Thousands of architects, so desperate is their position, would jump at offers of such work, but that fact does not alter one bit the fact that such a position is a deplorable one for us to be in—indeed, it only helps to emphasise how bad the situation is.

The first effect of the war on the profession was to sweep out of sight almost every job in hand or in prospect, and even the most determined may have felt some excuse for thinking that architecture was not wanted, that architecture was a peace-time occupation only. We saw even those works such as camps, schools and hospitals postponed indefinitely which, it might have been thought, were more needed now than ever.

There was reason enough for the profession's surrender to depression. The time for architecture was gone—so too many architects seemed to say—

and in saying so or thinking in that way helped unconsciously the retrogressive opinions of those who never cared much at any time whether architecture came or went.

In response to a natural desire, indeed a necessity, to conserve the small resources that most architects possess there was too much retreating into shells; in response to a desire to satisfy one need we poor architects allowed ourselves to be blinded to others; to preserve the dwindling hopes of security we closed doors that should have been left open.

Now more than ever the profession must profess even if it is deprived of much of its chance to practise; it will perhaps only recover its right to practise if it does profess vigorously and openly.

There are two objectives—to win the war (and architecture can help in that) and to make the war worth winning by retaining as much as we can of the progressive elements of science and art to regenerate life afterwards. The second is the most important, perhaps, because regeneration will be necessary whether we win or lose. Nevertheless it is useless for us to pretend that architects can claim their right to rebuild the country if they fail in their claim to help fight the war: fight it *as architects* in the fullest possible meaning of the word.

Nor, much more fundamentally, can we hope that if there is no constant use made of the sciences, arts or what-you-will of architecture during war years that at the end of it there will have been enough continuity of experience to make progress possible. We shall have to go back three, four or five years groping for contacts with a past socio-logically, technically and spiritually out of date.

Architects must first establish their claim to be a military science. This is not absurd self-centred ambition, nor, as some would have it, prostitution. No one suggests that a doctor is prostituting his services when he claims that medicine or surgery is an essential military service.

Another thing for us to bear in mind is this: almost all military sciences, aircraft engineering, naval architecture, civil engineering, surgery

medicine progress during war, their techniques under the stress of war services are made to get better and better, whereas architecture, with her potential military services unrecognised or partially recognised, is in real danger of relapsing into minimum standard building. The only effects on building technique of the 1914-18 war were small developments in the design and use of prefabricated huts, and some experimental building in pisé and cob (retrogression to a method of building in use centuries ago)—that was all—to contrast with the remarkable advances made in other sciences—and arts too.

It is generally recognised that ships and aeroplanes must be better, even, to meet the stress of war than they need to be in peace. We must make it absolutely clear, to ourselves no less than to others, that first-class architecture is necessary in war, not just for our fun or to line our pockets but because good building can help to win the war. We have to run the risk of being rebuked for self-interest.

To claim this is not selfishness. In a second-rate hospital building patients are cured more slowly than in a good building, in a second-rate warehouse goods are handled more slowly. No talk about lack of money to build well-planned and well-designed buildings can avoid this conclusion. A fraction of the money wasted on some sides of war activity with a prodigality that flatters our financial resources could ensure the erection of good buildings where at present we are in danger of getting shoddy inefficient buildings only.

The essential architectural part is planning—this is a cliché for us but not for others. A faulty structure can be repaired, a roof of a temporary building that leaks can be patched up, but no expedient whatever will get round the permanent inescapable inconveniences of a bad plan.

Any architect can visualise this easily enough, the difficulty is to convince others. In a badly planned A.R.P. canteen, for instance, exhausted workers will be unable to have the quick, restful, efficient service they will need to revive them for their next spell of duty. Faults in planning which could have been avoided can give rise to a whole train of failures which, except by an expert, cannot easily be traced back to their original cause.

Why is the need for complete efficiency in other military sciences recognised, if not always achieved, whereas the essential contribution of architecture is not recognised at all. One reason, possibly, is that

the products of other sciences are brought face to face with the opponent's similar products so that the results of inefficient work are directly and immediately evident. An aeroplane or ship designed for war with the same scant attention paid to its essential qualities as is given to most war buildings will be shot down or sunk. The bad building will survive. The surgeon trying desperately to deal with cases in a casualty station may, lacking any consciousness of architectural plan, never realise how much the plan deficiencies of his second-rate standard hut obstruct his work. He may be able to treat only ten cases while the doctor on the other side can treat twelve.

Evacuated children in small towns and villages without proper schools or homes or recreation places will grow up nervous, half-educated, ill equipped either to fight the war or build a new post-war England. It is not an architectural problem only but it is in part. We know this and must say it until the fact is recognised, and schools and camps and village halls built properly, in quality worthy of the function they have to fulfil.

The examples any architect can think of for himself are numberless—but the objection will always be made—"It is all very well for you to talk like this—but you must realise that there isn't money to build these perfectly planned buildings; we must get along with what we know to be second-rate affairs—it's unpleasant but inevitable!" "Anyhow," the objector adds, "what we need in war more than quality is speed of production." Speed demands prefabrication, prefabrication demands standardisation and standardisation means that plan requirements can only be met by adopting a "lowest common denominator solution."

The detailed answer to this must be given in another article; for the moment it is sufficient to suggest that standardisation or prefabricating systems which do not take a close account of plan needs are at fault. The prefabrication designer designs his system with certain known factors as a start. If it is a system designed by an architect it will probably allow adequately for the plan-function factors, if by an engineer for structural factors only.

This article has dealt only with the possible war service of architecture, another will discuss the duty we have now to prepare for peace and subsequent articles will be published on various aspects of the profession and its war-time duties.

EMERGENCY LEGISLATION AFFECTING HOUSING AND BUILDING WORK GENERALLY

In the first few days of war a large number of Acts of Parliament were passed as Emergency legislation, affecting almost every side of civil life, and there have been some one hundred and sixty emergency Statutory Rules and Orders. In addition to what may properly be called the Emergency Acts, passed with the utmost speed of which Parliament was capable after declaration of war, there is the Civil Defence Act passed in July, the most important of all the War Acts affecting every side of civil life.

The Civil Defence Act, described in its sub-title as "an Act to make further provision for civil defence and for purposes connected therewith," has been annotated at length by Mr. H. Heathcote-Williams in the *Journal of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute** and commented on in most of the architectural papers. The Act itself (cost 2s.) should be in every architect's possession; it is too long and too complicated to be compressed helpfully in a short article.

Among the other Acts which affect architects' work are those summarised here: The Courts (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939; the Rent Restrictions Act, 1939; the Landlord and Tenant (War Damage) Act, 1939; the Essential Buildings and Plant (Repair of War Damage) Act, 1939; and the Housing (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939. The summaries of the first three are in substance the notes of a lecture given at the Housing Centre on 18 September by Mr. Ambrose Appelbe, Hon. Solicitor to the Centre†.

COURTS EMERGENCY POWERS ACT 1939

This Act, which was passed on 1 September 1939, provides that:

i. *Except by leave of the Court*, no one shall proceed to execution or enforcement of a judgment for payment of a sum of money. This is not applicable, however, to judgment for damages for tort, costs, affiliation orders or criminal proceedings, or to judgment for any recovery of a debt under a contract made *after* the passing of the Act. Lawyers are already attempting to evade the Act by securing new contracts based upon the old one after 1 September.

**Jnl. of A. and E.A.I.* Vol. 19, Aug. 1939, Supplement 2, pp. 91-236.

† *The Housing Centre Bulletin*, No. 43 (September), contains short summaries of the principal war legislation affecting housing and planning.

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ii. *Except by leave of the Court*, no distress, possession by receiver, re-entry, realisation of a security or forfeiture of deposit or foreclosure can take place unless based on a contract made after the Act, or where the mortgagee was in possession, etc., before the Act.

iii. *Except by leave of the Court*, there can be no recovery of possession of land in default of rent except where the contract is made after the Act. In considering applications, the Court will be moved by consideration as to whether the person liable is unable immediately to fulfil obligations by reason of circumstances "directly or indirectly due to any war in which H.M. may be engaged," and may make such conditions as it thinks proper.

RENT RESTRICTIONS ACT 1939

This is a rent Act of nine sections only, which brings under control probably some 98 per cent. of built houses in this country, far more than have been hitherto controlled. It provides that all houses are controlled except those where, on 1 April 1939, the rateable value exceeded £100 in the Metropolitan Police Area (elsewhere £75, but £90 in Scotland). The only exceptions are for public houses, premises let furnished, and houses for which the local authority is required to keep a revenue account. There is to be no decontrol by the landlord in obtaining vacant possession where houses are recontrolled.

The present rents will be treated as the standard rents, and where proceedings are pending at the moment a tenant can in all cases apply to the Court for relief. It is important to note that new houses upon being built become controlled. This is really a matter of policy, and may well affect detrimentally the building of houses during and shortly after the war. Increases of rent are only permitted where the rates are increased, or where the landlord has expended money on improvements or structural alterations as opposed to repairs. The Act is optimistically stated to continue only six months after such date as "H.M. by Order in Council declares the date on which the emergency came to an end." It will be noted that my general observations for the Act are that the method of controlling by rateable value means in fact that in London lower middle classes paying £3 to £4 per week will generally benefit by the Rent Acts; it might perhaps have been better to benefit

everyone at the expense of landlords. It has always seemed to me unfair to penalise a particular group of landlords by these Acts.

LANDLORD AND TENANT (WAR DAMAGE) ACT 1939

This is a very complicated Act, and it will probably not give rise to so much litigation as would be expected, because, being so complicated, both parties may obtain rough justice by obtaining a settlement. The Act is biased against the property owner. I cannot give more than a rough outline of the 26 sections. Namely, that no relief is afforded by Common Law to the tenant who has covenanted to keep the property in repair, even when it is damaged or destroyed by the King's enemies, but the tenant was liable for rent.

DEFINITIONS

A number of important definitions are contained at the end and elsewhere in the Act ; the chief of these are :

1. *Lease* in the Act is taken to include practically any lease or tenancy except "ground lease," which means a lease where the tenant is paying a rent "which does not substantially exceed the rent which a tenant might reasonably have been expected . . . to pay for the land comprised in the lease, excluding any buildings, for a term equal to the term created by the lease." For example, a long building lease of 99 years.
2. *War damage* is that " caused by, or in repelling, enemy action, or by measures taken to avoid the spreading of the consequences of such damage.
3. "Unfit" has two meanings in the Act, (a) when applied to buildings or works or to property where three-quarters at least of the value is attributable to the buildings or works where the property has been rendered unfit for the purpose for which the property is used or adapted at time of damage. Regard in such cases being paid to the class of tenant likely to occupy similar buildings or works which are not unfit, and to the standard of alternative accommodation available, and to all other circumstances.
- (b) In relation to other land, i.e., where buildings or works do not equal three-quarters of the value, and where the property has been rendered unfit for any purpose for which the tenant can reasonably be expected to use the land, having regard to the terms of the lease under which it is held, e.g., that such a tenant may if user be limited by the lease and be in a better position with regard to disclaimer.

Section 1.—With regard to repairs. The Act relieves from liability to undertake normal repairs in cases of *War damage*. This releases any lessor or lessee who has entered into an obligation to repair, whatever the date of the lease, if it is unreasonable for him to do repairs. If, for example, two-thirds of a house is destroyed, it would be useless to repair the other one-third, even if it is not touched directly by war damage. Such liability to repair is suspended until reparation of war damage is so far advanced that repairs to the undamaged part of the building can reasonably be done, and is of substantial advantage to the person entitled to the benefit thereof.

It should be noted that the Act applies to obligations to repair contained in mortgages or other instruments, or even oral contracts.

NOTICES OF DISCLAIMER AND RETENTION

Where property is rendered unfit directly by reason of War damage :

1. The tenant may serve (a) "notice of disclaimer" of the lease or (b) "notice of retention."

(a) If a notice of disclaimer has been served, the landlord in reply may serve a "notice to avoid disclaimer," requiring the tenant to return ; the landlord must then make the premises fit as soon as is reasonably practicable, meanwhile no rent is payable. If a part of the premises can be occupied, then the Court may apportion. If a notice of disclaimer is unchallenged, the tenancy ends as from the service of the notice.

(b) If the tenant serves a notice of retention, he must make the premises fit, even though he is not obliged to do so under the lease. The rent, etc., is suspended meanwhile.

2. If the tenant does not serve a notice, the landlord may serve the tenant with a *Notice to Elect*, requesting the tenant to serve a Notice of Disclaimer or Retainer. If the tenant then fails to comply, he will be deemed to have served a Notice of Retention unless the landlord's notice is of no effect, which it is :

(a) If within one month the tenant serves a counter-notice claiming that the property was not unfit by war damage when the landlord's notice was served ; and,

(b) If, on application by landlord within 14 days, the Court does not hold that the property was unfit.

3. GROUND LEASES

The only notice that can be given is one by the tenant to disclaim when and on times as Court orders. Provisions of the Act concerning disclaimer are not applicable to agricultural and mining leases.

CRITICISM

It occurs to me that the Act is defective in one or two ways, for instance :

1. It does not provide for abatement of rent unless the premises are wholly unfit, unless disclaimer notice and notice to avoid by landlord to order given by Court.

2. There seems to be no, or very inadequate, machinery to compel a landlord to get a tithe reparation, and no compensation if he delays.

3. It gives apparently no abatement of rent when the tenant is deprived of all or part of premises by exercise of compulsory powers (as distinguished from War damage).

4. It does not provide for repayment of rent by the landlord when the tenant has paid his rent in advance.

5. The procedure might have been simpler, it relies too much on orders of the Court at a time when, it would seem to be certain, there will be considerable congestion in the Courts.

*P.S.—*As usual to-day, at the end of the Act, under miscellaneous provisions is an important little item. It is with regard to restrictive covenants in lease. These may be modified by the application to the proper centre where premises are unfit, also where the authority is satisfied that the proposed discharge or modification is

desirable in order to permit the *economical use or development of the land* comprised in the lease, or is otherwise desirable in the *national interest*. Contracting out of the Act is forbidden.

Jurisdiction under the Act is in the County Court. The Judge may inspect the property.

THE ESSENTIAL BUILDINGS AND PLANT (REPAIR OF WAR DAMAGE) ACT 1939

This Act "provides for the repair of buildings used for purposes essential to the welfare of the civil population . . . where the buildings . . . are damaged by war." The Act is a financial measure providing loans for the repair of essential buildings and the replacement of essential plant. Superficially, the Act is of interest to architects as showing the wide range of building work (and consequently employment of architects) which will be necessary if war damage to any considerable extent happens in this country.

Building work is partitioned under the authority of appropriate Ministers, e.g., Minister of Health in case

of hospitals, etc.; President of Board of Education in case of schools; Minister of Transport in case of road transport garages. The appropriate Minister may lend the owner of the essential building the estimated cost of repairs. Where the property does not belong to a local authority, the loan or cost of repairs will be registered as a charge on the premises. "No repayment of capital or payment of interest will normally be expected or demanded until after the end of the emergency."

Circular 1848, which describes this Act, states that the Government are taking steps to assure the supply of suitable materials for "first-aid" repairs.

The Housing (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939, makes similar provision for the repair of housing. The local authority, if it has been decided that the repair of certain housing is essential for the locality, can enter in, first to complete first-aid repairs, and subsequently after 14 days notice to the person having control of the house to make more permanent repairs which would be registered as a charge against the property.

THE BUILDING INDUSTRIES NATIONAL COUNCIL

The Building Group of Industries has an important contribution to make to the successful prosecution of the war which is exceeded by no other industry. Not a single effective arm can be made, not a single ton of additional foodstuffs or raw material can be stored without its proper protection of building materials assembled by the labour resources of the industry.

To make that contribution fully effective, close contact must be maintained between the Departments of H.M. Government and the responsible representative organisations of the industry. The Building Industries National Council has already established such relation with certain Departments, and there is every reason to believe that as the implications of war-time conditions become realised this central liaison will be greatly developed.

The functions of the Council will be exercised by an Emergency Committee comprising the following officers, who will remain in office until further notice:—

The President . . .	Mr. H. J. C. Johnston.	Representing the Architects Group.
The Senior Vice-President . . .	Mr. George Hicks, M.P., Hon. A.R.I.B.A.	Representing the Contractors Group.
The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee . . .	Mr. Sydney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A.	Representing the Materials Group.
The Chairman of the Special Committee for Public Relations	Mr. Sydney Tatchell, F.R.I.B.A.	Representing the Operatives Group.
The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Building Acts and Byelaws	Mr. Maurice E. Webb, M.C., D.S.O., F.R.I.B.A.	Representing the Surveyors Group.
The Chairman of the Air Raid Precautions Committee	Major V. Lefebure.	
The Honorary Treasurer . . .	Mr. A. S. Bennion, F.S.I.	
The Honorary Secretary . . .	Mr. I. Ernest Jones, M.A., B.Sc.	

The Committee has been set up as a result of representations by the building industries to the effect that the restriction of civil building activity is becoming so general and rigorous that harm is likely to be done to the national interest through a consequent unnecessary increase in unemployment and reduction in revenue-producing activity.

The task of the Committee will be to collect and collate the data necessary to give a complete view of the situation from time to time, and as it is likely to develop and to frame whatever representations to H.M. Government as may at any time be deemed necessary.

NEW TIMBER REGULATIONS

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS

EMERGENCY POWERS (DEFENCE)

RAW MATERIALS

The Control of Timber (No. 5) Order, 1939, dated 30 September 1939, made by the Minister of Supply, under Regulations 55 and 98 of the Defence Regulations, 1939.

WHEREAS it appears to the Minister of Supply to be necessary for maintaining supplies and services essential to the life of the community and expedient that this Order should be made :—

NOW THEREFORE the Minister of Supply in pursuance of Regulations 55 and 98 of the Defence Regulations 1939 (*) hereby orders as follows :—

1. (1) No person shall acquire or agree or offer to acquire for consumption any timber or boxboards except under the authority of a licence granted by the Minister of Supply or in accordance with a special or general direction issued by the Minister of Supply.

(2) Nothing in this Article shall prohibit or restrict the acquisition for consumption of any timber or boxboards by any person if (a) the total value of the timber and boxboards acquired and being acquired by him in the then present calendar month otherwise than under a licence or direction of the Minister of Supply does not exceed £20 and (b) all the timber and boxboards so acquired by him are acquired for work of national importance or urgent necessity and (c) at the time of each such acquisition he signs and delivers to the person disposing of the timber or boxboards a declaration as mentioned in Article 2 (2) hereof.

(3) (a) No person who has acquired any timber or boxboards otherwise than for consumption shall without the permission of the Minister of Supply consume such timber or boxboards.

(b) No person who has acquired any timber or boxboards for consumption under a licence or in accordance with a direction or by virtue of a declaration as hereinbefore mentioned shall without the permission of the Minister of Supply consume such timber or boxboards for any purpose other than the purpose for which he acquired such timber or boxboards.

2. (1) No person shall dispose of or agree or offer to dispose of for consumption any timber or boxboards except to a person who produces a licence granted by the Minister of Supply authorising him to acquire that timber or those boxboards or is authorised by a special or general direction issued by the Minister of Supply to acquire that timber or those boxboards.

(2) Nothing in this Article shall prohibit or restrict the disposal or consumption of any timber or boxboards by any person if at the time of such disposal he receives from the person acquiring such timber or boxboards a declaration signed by such last-mentioned person and stating that the total value of the timber and boxboards acquired and being acquired by him in the then present calendar month otherwise than under a licence or direction of the Minister of Supply does not exceed £20 and that all such timber and boxboards so acquired by him are acquired for work of national importance or urgent necessity.

3. Any person disposing of any timber or boxboards on or after the date on which this Order comes into force shall make returns of or relating to the timber or boxboards so disposed of by him as and when and in such manner and form as may be required in any direction issued by the Minister of Supply.

4. (1) The holder of any licence granted by the Minister of Supply under this Order shall comply with any conditions contained in the licence.

(2) If any licence granted under this Order is revoked by the

Minister of Supply the holder of the licence shall forthwith deliver up the licence as directed by the Minister of Supply.

5. (1) This Order shall apply only to timber and boxboards situated in the United Kingdom.

(2) Nothing in this Order shall apply to individual retail transactions not exceeding £1 in value.

(3) The provisions of Article 8 of the Control of Timber (No. 1) Order, 1939, shall apply to this Order.

6. (1) In this Order the expressions "timber" and "boxboards" and "acquire" and "dispose of" and "acquisition" and "disposal" shall bear the same meanings respectively as they have in the Control of Timber (No. 1) Order 1939.

(2) Without prejudice to any other power of issuing directions, directions issued by the Minister of Supply under this Order may be issued by means of a notice published in such manner as shall appear to him to be best adapted for informing persons affected.

7. Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Control of Timber (No. 1) Order, 1939, shall cease to have effect on and after the fourth day of October 1939.

8. This Order shall come into force on the fourth day of October 1939, and may be cited as the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order 1939.

Dated this thirtieth day of September 1939.

E. LESLIE BURGIN,

Minister of Supply

CONTROL OF TIMBER (No. 5) ORDER 1939

DIRECTION NO. 1

Under the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order 1939, the Minister of Supply hereby directs as follows :—

1. Notwithstanding anything in Articles 1 and 2 of the Order, timber may be acquired for consumption by, and disposed of for consumption to, persons without a licence in the following cases :—

(i) Timber required by Government Departments which have the sanction of the Ministry of Supply to acquire the timber.

(ii) Timber required by any authority or person charged with the protection of persons or property from injury or damage in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Defence Act, 1939, for the purpose of affording such protection.

(iii) Disposals for consumption up to a maximum of 15 per cent. of the stock in the hands of merchants and coming into their possession during the currency of the Control of Timber (No. 1) Order, 1939, as amended by the Control of Timber (No. 3) Order, 1939 (i.e., from 1 September 1939, to 3 October 1939) of each of the following timbers :—

Ash,

Mahogany,

Walnut,

Lignum vitæ,

Silver spruce,

All other kinds of timber taken together.

(iv) Disposals not exceeding 100 cubic feet in one transaction of constructional timber falling within the category "All other kinds of timber taken together" in paragraph 1 (iii) hereof where such timber is required for the protection of the purchaser or the members of his household or for effecting essential repairs to premises in the ownership or possession of the purchaser.

2. This direction shall come into force on the fourth day of October 1939, and shall cease to have effect on the seventh day of October 1939, and may be cited as the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order 1939, Direction No. 1.

Dated this thirtieth day of September 1939.

By Order of the Minister of Supply.

H. J. HUTCHINSON,

Director of Raw Materials

(*) S.R. & O. 1939 No. 927.

CONTROL OF TIMBER SUPPLIES

1. The Minister of Supply announces that in pursuance of powers granted under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act, 1939, he has made the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order, 1939.

2. The restrictions on dealings in timber imposed by the Control of Timber (No. 1) Order, 1939, as amended by the Control of Timber (No. 3) Order, 1939, will be revoked on and from Wednesday, 4 October, 1939, from which date there will be substituted a new licensing system. Under this licensing system every purchaser of timber or boxboards for consumption must have a licence for his purchase (except in certain special cases) and the seller has to see that his purchaser duly holds a licence.

3. Special cases in which no licences are required are as follows :

(i) Purchases by consumers of timber and boxboards up to a total value of £20 in any one calendar month provided that the timber and boxboards so purchased are for work of national importance or urgent necessity.

(ii) Direct purchases by Departments of H.M. Government in specific cases covered by special or general directions issued by the Minister.

4. The No. 5 Order provides for the rendering of returns

of sales of timber or boxboards for consumption. Details of the information required in this connection are contained in Direction No. 2 issued by the Ministry of Supply under the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order, 1939.

5. The Order does not apply to individual retail transactions not exceeding £1 in value.

6. Subject always to the control of the Headquarters Department of the Timber Control the licensing system introduced by the No. 5 Order will be operated by the Timber Control Area Officers in respect of timber other than mining timber and by the Timber Control Pitwood District Officers in respect of mining timber. Copies of forms of application for licences should, therefore, be obtained from and returned when completed to the appropriate officers at the addresses shown below.

7. Copies of forms of application for licences in respect of boxboards should be obtained from and returned when completed to the Controller of Timber Supplies (Branch 8), Ministry of Supply, 2-7 Elmdale Road, Bristol, 8.

8. Copies of the Control of Timber (No. 5) Order and of all Directions issued under the Order should be obtained directly, or through any bookseller, from H.M. Stationery Office at the published sale prices.

TIMBER CONTROL AREAS

No.	Covering.	Headquarters' Address.	No.	Covering.	Headquarters' Address
1.	Northumberland, Durham, North Riding of Yorkshire.	2 Devonshire Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.	10.	Derbyshire—Buxton Borough, Glossop Borough, New Mills Urban District, Whaley Bridge Urban District, Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District.	West House School, 24 St. James' Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15.
2.	Yorkshire (West Riding and East Riding).	Craven Street Senior School, Holderness Road, Hull.	11.	Northern Ireland.	77-79 Corporation Street, Belfast.
3.	Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire (less portion in No. 9 Area), Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, Northamptonshire.	3rd Floor, Vernon House, Friar Lane, Nottingham.	12.	Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, Wigtonshire, Dumbartonshire, Argyllshire, Clackmannan, Kirkcudbrightshire, Dumfriesshire, Stirlingshire, Bute.	29 Park Circus, Glasgow, C.3.
4.	Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire.	35 Goodwins Road, King's Lynn.	13.	West Lothian, East Lothian, Midlothian, Berwickshire, Peeblesshire, Selkirkshire, Roxburghshire.	45 Queen Street, Edinburgh, 2.
5.	London, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire.	25 Savile Row, London, W.1.	14.	Angus, Fifeshire, Perthshire, Kinross-shire.	56 Reform Street, Dundee.
6.	Sussex, Hampshire, Dorsetshire, Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Wiltshire (South of G.W.R. main line, excluding towns on that line).	Grayladies, Old Bursledon, Nr. Southampton.	15.	Aberdeenshire, Morayshire, Banffshire, Kincardineshire, Orkney and Shetland.	Amicable House, 3rd Floor, 252 Union Street, Aberdeen.
7.	Devon, Cornwall.	Sutton Road, Plymouth.	16.	Invernesshire, Nairn, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherlandshire, Caithness.	53 Shore Street, Inverness.
8.	Somersetshire, Wiltshire (north of G.W.R. main line and including towns on that line), Gloucestershire.	Runnington Lodge, Dundham Park, Bristol.	17.	Monmouthshire, Glamorganshire, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Cardiganshire, Breconshire, Radnorshire.	27 Newport Road, Cardiff.
9.	Cheshire, Lancashire, Cumberland, Westmorland, Montgomeryshire, Merionethshire, Caernarvonshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Anglesea, and in	8th Floor, India Building, Water Street, Liverpool.			

SCHOOL BUILDING

The following circular (No. 1477) has been sent by the Board of Education to the London Education Authorities.

1. I am directed to refer to the Treasury Circular of 13 September relative to the restriction of capital expenditure by local authorities, whether or not already authorised, within the narrowest limits. In view of the terms of that Circular the Board have been in consultation with the Treasury and desire to offer the following general observations for the guidance of Local Education Authorities.

2. It is clear that for some time to come it will be very difficult for Local Education Authorities to obtain materials or labour for any new building on account of the shortage of both for the Service programmes, to which the system of control is bound to give priority. Although, therefore, there is no general embargo on school building, the hard facts of the situation must inevitably involve the postponement, for a period which is at present unascertainable, of the great majority of building projects. In the light of these circumstances the Board have to determine how building proposals should be dealt with. This Circular deals specifically with the three main branches of education—elementary, secondary and technical. If the Authority have any pressing proposals in any other branch of education they should consult the Board, but it will be realised that the considerations mentioned above will apply.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

3. The submission to the Board for approval of proposals for the provision of new public elementary schools, or for alterations or additions to existing public elementary schools, should be deferred, unless the Authority are satisfied that the proposals cannot be avoided, postponed or reduced; and even in such cases the Board would suggest that, having regard to the considerations referred to in the preceding paragraph, the submission of the proposal to the Board should be deferred for at least six months, by which time the position as regards supplies may be more clear. In the meantime, it would be open to the Authority to prepare their plans in consultation with the Board up to the point at which they would ordinarily ask for tenders. Proposals which have already been submitted to the Board, whether or not they have already received the Board's approval, should, provided work has not already begun, be similarly reconsidered and, when regarded as really urgent, resubmitted to the Board for further consideration after a similar period.

Minor proposals necessitated by considerations of health, e.g., water and sanitation, which can be met out of revenue, may be submitted to the Board at any time. It is to be

expected that in such cases the amount of labour and material involved will be very small.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

4. As regards Secondary Schools, the Board would be prepared to consider proposals for the provision of new or the extension or alteration of existing Secondary Schools only in the most exceptional circumstances. The restrictions announced in Circular 1464 will still apply, but in present circumstances it will not generally be possible to sanction new schools or enlargements to meet new centres of population, and proposals for the improvement of schools on grounds of health should be limited to the removal of serious defects which make the continued use of the premises intolerable even in a period of emergency.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

5. The decisive consideration in the case of proposed new Technical School buildings is the facilities which they would offer for the training of members of the Fighting Forces and of workers engaged in industries necessary for the prosecution of the war. It is improbable that a complete new Technical School could be built in time to make an effective contribution to such training and therefore any proposal, whether for an extension of an existing school or an instalment of a new one, would most usefully take the form of the provision of a workshop block which can be built comparatively quickly.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

6. As regards works in progress the Authority's attention is directed to paragraph 3 of the Treasury Circular of 13 September 1939. In cases where the works are well in hand, especially in reception areas where the buildings are likely to facilitate the education of an increased number of children, the Board would make every effort to facilitate their progress, but they are bound to point out that the question of priority represents special difficulties at the present time when demands on material and labour for war purposes are so acute. In particular, the Board would regard the completion of technical school buildings as important if, in addition to offering facilities which would meet the needs of the Service Departments, they provided training in the major industries which are of national importance at the present time.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

7. This Circular does not apply to proposals relating to air raid precautions in schools.

E. G. HOLMES

THE PARLIAMENTARY SCIENCE COMMITTEE

The Parliamentary Science Committee has been dissolved for the duration of the war, the Committee's office is being vacated and the publication of "Science in Parliament" has ceased. The Committee recommends that any representation which constituent bodies may desire to make to any Government Department, which can in their opinion be made more

effectively through a member of Parliament, should be made in the first instance to a member of the Committee's Executive who is a member of Parliament. He will discuss such representation, unofficially, at his discretion with any other member of Parliament whom he thinks likely to be helpful in this direction with a view to further action.

REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS

THE REDUCTION OF NOISE IN BUILDINGS

The work described in the report issued recently by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research* has been carried out jointly by the National Physical Laboratory and the Building Research Station. The National Physical Laboratory has been solely responsible for the measurements, while the Building Research Station has erected many structures of the types suggested by these measurements and has tested them as nearly as possible under practical conditions. Although the work is not yet completed, certain broad principles have been established which should be of great assistance to architects and builders dealing with the problem of the reduction of noise.

The report recommends that the problem should be attacked along three lines : (1) by careful planning so that external and internal sources of noise are as far removed as possible from those parts of the building where quiet is most needed ; (2) by suppressing or reducing internal noise, preferably at its source ; (3) by providing a structure which will as far as possible prevent the transmission of noise from one part of the building to another.

"There is a tendency," the report continues, "to consider the structural question as the vital one and to neglect the other approaches. This is wrong, for the desired degree of quiet is obtained most economically by giving equal consideration to all three of these aspects. Indeed, whilst the provision of a sound insulating structure is often essential, the suppression of noise at the source and protective planning can reduce considerably the degree of structural insulation required, and therefore the cost of insulation. Moreover, it should be realised that in some cases the structural methods at present known are insufficient to provide adequate insulation, even if the cost does not matter."

The Importance of Planning

A number of diagrams are given which show how blocks of flats and other large buildings can be placed on urban sites so as to provide as much quiet as possible in the rooms. Similarly, some specimen plans of houses and flats illustrate how disturbance by internal noise can be reduced by careful arrangement of rooms used for various purposes.

The problem of designing so as to prevent the transmission of sound from one part of the building to another is very complex, because of the multiplicity of the kinds of sounds which have to be suppressed and the variety of the paths by which they can travel. For example, a man walking on a floor sets the floor in vibration, and this in turn generates in the air sound waves which reach the walker's ears as air-borne sound. Similarly an air-borne sound-wave is produced in the room immediately below. In addition, the floor vibrations travel laterally and are communicated to walls in contact with the floor and to the structure generally. Such structure-borne noise may travel a considerable distance with little attenuation, with the result that the noise of footsteps is heard in many rooms.

The report emphasises that sound reduction in a new building involves consideration of the whole structure at an early stage in the design. Floors, for example, cannot be considered without regard to the remainder of the construction with which they are associated.

When all the present evidence is reviewed, it appears that probably the only satisfactory way of preventing excessive transmission in large buildings will be to break the continuity of the structure, and it may even become necessary to construct units—such as complete flats—as separate boxes floating upon suitable insulation. Experiments on these lines are in progress and are promising.

Wireless

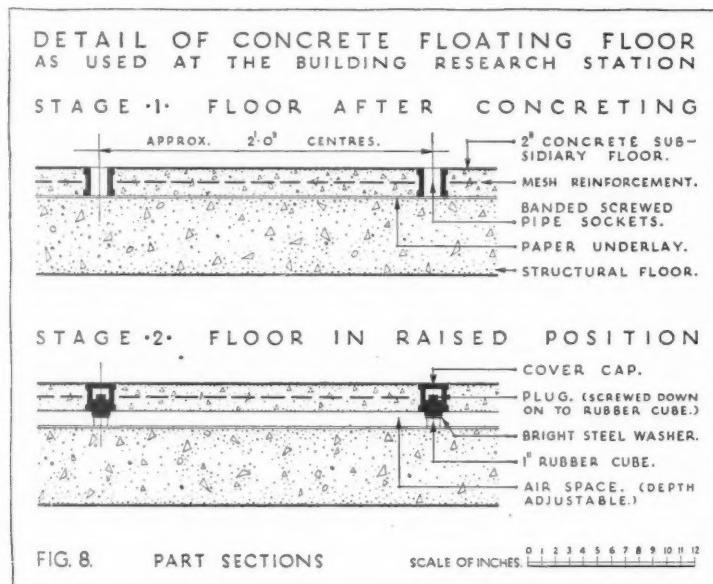
Perhaps the most difficult problem of all is presented by the wireless set, which may be clearly audible through an 18 in. brick wall. Again, it has been found in experiments in a large reinforced concrete building that operating a loudspeaker in one room generated appreciable sound intensity not only in the next room, but in rooms farther removed. In a room 50 ft. away the sound intensity was not much less than the intensity in the room next to the loudspeaker.

Failing a solution based on the design of the structure of the building, the only alternative suggested for reducing noises due to wireless in flats is the provision of a central receiver with relays to loudspeakers fixed in predetermined positions in each flat, thus enabling control to be exercised by the management over the maximum volume of output. The arrangement has the advantage of providing good reception to the tenants, whereas other electrical equipment and metal used in the construction of the building may cause serious interference with individual wireless sets operating with indoor aerials.

Walls and Floors

With regard to the reduction of air-borne noises, the report states that there is a relationship between the weight of a single homogeneous wall and the average noise reduction given by it. The law governing this relationship, however, is such that small additions to the weight have less and less effect in reducing noise as the weight of the partition increases. Thus, the sound reduction of a 4½ in. as compared with a 9 in. brick wall is 5 units, but it would be necessary to use an 18 in. wall to get an equal further reduction. It accordingly becomes uneconomical to rely solely on weight, and better results can be obtained by the use of double-wall construction, in which the two walls are isolated from each other. To obtain the best results it is also necessary to insulate the edges of each of the separate walls as far as possible from the surrounding structure. It is sometimes recommended that the cavity of a double partition should be filled with granular or other loose sound-absorbent. Such a filling, the report states, is most unlikely to give any improvement, because a filling will act as a bridge, and conduct vibration from one side of the wall to the other. Another recommendation on the value of which the report also casts doubt is to hang a sheet or blanket of absorbent material loosely in the cavity.

* *The Reduction of Noise in Buildings.* Building Research Special Report No. 26. H.M. Stationery Office. 1s. net.



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In the case of floors, the sound reduction for air-borne noise given by concrete and wooden floors is about the same. With noises due to impacts, such as footsteps, the ordinary concrete floor is less noisy than a wooden floor, but neither type of floor is very satisfactory. A distinct improvement can be obtained by the use of floor coverings, such as pile carpets laid on thick under-felt, but the most effective solution so far obtained lies in the provision of a concrete floor insulated from the structural floor. Such a "floating" floor can be constructed in pre-cast slabs, or it may be cast *in situ*. A form of construction has been developed at the Building Research Station whereby a floating floor may be cast *in situ* and raised after it has hardened. This method eliminates the possibility of a rigid bridge forming between the floating floor and the structural floor, and it has the additional advantage of enabling the rubber pads on which the floating floor is placed to be changed at a later date without disturbing the concrete. Some further improvement can also be obtained by the use of a floating ceiling below the structural floor.

Background Noise

The practical problem that the architect has to face, as a rule, is that of selecting a type of wall structure which will reduce a noise whose loudness is approximately known to a level which can be tolerated after transmission through the

wall of a room. The report contains tables giving the general level of background noise which may be regarded as inoffensive in rooms used for various purposes. It also contains tables giving in phons the loudness of various indoor and outdoor sounds. The phon is now generally accepted as the unit for measuring the sensation of loudness. It is approximately the smallest loudness change which is detectable by ear under ordinary conditions. According to various experimenters a reduction of loudness of 10 phons is often assessed by an average person as "halving" the loudness of a sound, at any rate for sounds of medium pitch and loudness.

In certain cases, especially when it is desired to make a particular noise in a neighbouring room inaudible in the listener's room, advantage can be taken of the fact that the general background of noise in a room tends to drown or mask any intruding noises. Experiments have shown that this masking takes place with noises of medium loudness when the intruding noise is about 30 phons below the background noise. Thus, in an office where a background noise of 50 phons can be tolerated, a noise quieter than 20 phons (i.e., 50-30) would be practically inaudible. In other words, if a noise level of 75 phons were created in the room next door to such an office, the noise would be inaudible in the office if the reduction provided by the flanking walls and dividing partitions was 55 units (i.e., 75-20).

TO THE FIFTY-EIGHTH

MR. FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT REPLIES

If printed reactions to my talks in London—no speaker really—which should have reached me there but now reach me at Taliesin mean anything, I have succeeded in getting myself misunderstood and well disliked, especially by those who should have been quick to understand me. I refer to the 58th variety—"the fruit of my own orchard?" For such pains as I took in the circumstances I am accused of disowning the "fruit of my own orchard" when I intended only to cut down saplings interfering with good fruit. Therefore certain intellectualists (saplings) are saying I am changed to "escapist." A bad word, their word "escapist"? Why call names? Why not go to work? Do something on their own that doesn't take refuge with the incompetent in a "universal" pattern for something that (should it abide with principle) ought to be as alive and various as human character is itself!

And have I "changed" or only smashed myself as idol? I intended to smash that idol but only to let idol worshippers a little closer than they now seem to want to go. Hero worship is sometimes pretty awful. That any of mine can now bear hide or hair of me would surprise me.

But, can't they be sports and smart as they, and I, think they are? Don't they know that every word of their own European creed, every form they use at least if not the every way they use it, came either directly or indirectly from my own "escape"?

Can they really believe Taliesin turning its face away from life because it refuses to see any pattern as "fit for the establishment of any contemporary vernacular" whatsoever and lives out in the country instead of some urban backyard or city slum? Can they believe that we at Taliesin advocate a "back-to-the-land" movement? Do they really imagine that I build self-indulgences for capitalistic parasites in the name of esoteric philosophy and work for the rich, that my buildings are expensive, etc., etc. . . ? I would like to compare the cost of them with the cost of theirs. Is the idea that good architecture must be, first of all, good building and the architect a master-builder first and an aesthete afterward—heresy? Is the idea that good community life is the life of the individual raised to the *n*th power rather than the life of the individual reduced to the lowest common denominator—idealistic hallucination? Cake? In this connection I ask M.A.R.S. . . again . . . which came first—hen or egg? Well—if the egg is the *Idea* then the egg came first—and, just so—society. First the great Individual (the *Idea* or Egg) then Society (the Hen). After that what have you?

Do they advocate abandoning women and children to be bombed in English, German, or Russian slums? All great cities are slums now—communism or no communism. They like them. Why?

Are they so in love with intellectualisations they can't see any true surface, or see any surface true, because of obliterating reflections? Then what hope to escape some universal pattern for the individual human soul named after some European?

I could only prove to them that to-day my building is as far in advance of my building, 1893-1911, as my building of that period was in advance of that around about it at the time, by teaching them to put two and two together so they will not make just one "four" but make *infinite* fours?

Once and for all concerning this constantly repeated reference to my contribution to Architecture as a kind of romanticism: because any attempt on their part to establish a "contemporary vernacular" is defied by the revelations of principle eternally fresh and new in every building I build—they drag in the term "Romanticism" to conceal their own importance whereas it really only explains it.

I love Romance as I love sentiment. But just as I dislike sentimentality I would dislike their "Romance." I suggest you put a gently sloping roof on any Le Corbusier or Gropius just to see what you have left of the so-called International Style after proper deductions have been made.

Boys, you are all going knowing *why* but not knowing *where*. Then why do you speak so much and so surely of *how*?

And I see some chance remark of mine led a few to draw the absurd conclusion that we at Taliesin don't keep in touch with "life as is" because we aren't newspaper addicts.

Have I "changed" because I used to say the machine is the artist's tool and now say that man should use the machine and not the machine use man? Believing that I see, now as then, the only way he can use it I took the idea to them. Amused . . . a little bored . . . I observe the fact that those who got the seed and raise the flowers now consider themselves creative-part with the seed they use. Is this why some form of imitation in their generation is more acceptable than the original? Is that why my own thought and work must go home by way of some derivative, not by me? I accept that backwash as European reaction on the way toward the "International Style": a style that could never be Democratic because it is *the use of man by the machine*. Are "they" striving to perfect that?

Why thus fail to distinguish between the economies of living and the forces of life? That distinction is only "Romantic" to them? Is it?

If only "they" would take as much pains to really understand me as I have in trying to justify their presence in the "orchard"—we might go places together, mutual help . . . first aid to a desperate world in dire need.

Well—what do "they" say?

* * *

I began my work as architect by sensibly accepting the machine as the creative artist's inevitable tool believing that only where such as he had it in control could it prove a blessing instead of a curse. I saw the consequences of machinery: standardisation, extreme urbanisation, human life becoming more and more vicarious and so more and more removed from the ground. I saw that life might be made dependent upon push button and steering wheel—saw it without flinching. I saw human energy reduced to Ohms and K.W., germs and glands—saw life centralised until it was at the mercy of the push button and steering wheel—still believing salvation lay in creative artist control. I had faith in that.

I still have faith. But, *where is that creative force to-day?* The man is not using the machine! *The machine is using the man* and is using him so he is losing himself . . . becoming a "thing" beneath his push button and steering wheel. Neither are *by him or for him*. Already he is started and steered by forces beyond his control, owing to feudal hangovers society will not yet give up.

I see now as I saw then—that the only way man can use the machine—not let it use him—is to get it as a

working principle into work by way of the great human force we used to call creative-artist. Well . . . again, where is he?

If he exists now he will probably be found under some other name, because, as he stood in no-man's land, the machine has already wiped him out as any constructive element in social life to-day. I foresaw this possibility. I did not accept it.

Le Corbusier, Gropius, *et al.*, are yet where I stood in 1900. I do not recant nor resign the position I then took but I have *experienced* my own philosophy. I have seen it taking partial effect by way of the generations following me. What I started to do, with high faith, and confidence in human-creative forces, I see giving way to certain sterilising factors in my original equation. Instead of mastering those factors on the side of creation, Europe has seen only a new æsthetic for academic consumption in a foolish effort to establish a contemporary vernacular. So, bid to England, I came with another "Declaration of Independence." This time one concerned, not with taxes, but with independence of any æsthetic whatsoever where this matter of *life as structure* is concerned—social, political, or artistic. I said that the only way man can use his machine and *keep alive what is best in him* is to go by means of it to the larger freedom the machine makes possible—go toward decentralisation instead of continuing the centralisation the machine exploits and, so far as any great human benefit goes, will soon explode.

Simple enough?

Do I continue to befog the issue? If so the Machine itself will prove me right. Meantime I can wait and work.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

The training of architects is as necessary in time of war as in times of peace; it concerns our immediate war efficiency and our post-war reconstruction. It is encouraging to find that the principals of all recognised schools of architecture are unanimously of the opinion that education should continue, and that almost all schools are open for the present session.

Most schools appear to have retained about 50 per cent. or more of their usual number of students, but how this figure will be affected by the calling up of further groups of conscripts it is as yet difficult to say; school staffs have in some cases been cut down to between two-thirds and a half of their normal strength, but other schools intend to maintain their whole staff as long as possible. In general it appears that many of the younger teachers have been able to continue at their jobs, and that schools will not have to go through an uncomfortable period of hiatus owing to the loss of their energetic and valuable contribution to the students' thought.

Very little detailed information on the curricula of the schools is yet available, but it seems probable that some changes will be made by many schools. At Leeds, for instance, whilst every effort is being made to give the maximum general architectural training possible, adjustments have been made in the curriculum to assist the student who is likely to be required for military service, and students in junior years obtain the more advanced instruction in surveying, steel and reinforced concrete and timber design which is normally given later in the course.

Most schools have not found it necessary to evacuate, and Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford and Sheffield are all continuing in their usual premises. The Architectural Association school has moved out of London to Hadley Common, the University of London to Cambridge, and Hull to Scarborough School of Art. In London the Regent Street and Northern Polytechnics are both carrying on at their normal addresses.

Accessions to the Library

1938-1939-XVI

Lists of all books, pamphlets, drawings and photographs presented to or purchased by the Library are published periodically. It is suggested that members who wish to be in close touch with the development of the Library should make a point of retaining these lists of reference.

Any notes which appear in the lists are published without prejudice to a further and more detailed criticism.

Books presented by publishers for review marked

Books purchased marked

* *Books of which there is at least one copy in the Loan Library*

ARCHITECTURE

MAROT (DANIEL) E.W. 72 : 013 (44)
L'Œuvre de D— M— . . . Epoque Louis XIV. (A. Guérinet, publ.)
pfo. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. Paris. n.d.
Presented by Col. W. G. Pringle.

AUDSLEY (W. J. and G. A.) S.R. 03 : 72
Popular dictionary of architecture and the allied arts.
Vol. iii (in 6 pts., 13 to 18 of whole work) (Bat-Butterby).
la. 8o. Lond. [? 1879, -82.]
Presented by Mrs. J. W. James.

Vols. i-iii already in Library. No more published.

SOUTH WALES INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
Annual report: 49th. [for] 1939-1940.

[1939.] R.

ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS 06 : 72 (71)
Act of incorporation and by-laws, cover title.
pam. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$. Edmonton. 1939. R.

THEORY

CARRARA (FRANCESCO) E.W. 72.01 : 7.01
Delle Lodi delle belle arti. Orazione e componimenti poetici etc.
40. Roma. 1758.

Last digit of date MDCCCLVIII erased, two others partially so.

Two letters, MS. 1759, pasted in at end.

Presented by Mr. Anthony Blunt, Ph.D., of the Courtauld Institute of Art.

SLEBOS (J. C.) 72.01 : 7.01
Grondslagen voor aesthetiek en stijl. Architectuur etc. —Fundamentals of aesthetics and style. Architecture. The plastic arts. Arts and crafts. (In Dutch and English.)
11". 176 pp. Amsterdam : J. Ahrend. 1939. R.

PRESERVATION

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS
Annual report: 62nd, July 1939, and an account of the annual meeting.

[1939.] 2s. 6d. R.

LEMAIRE (R.) 72.025 (493)
La Restauration des monuments anciens. [Illustrations are of Belgium.]

10". 240 pp. Antwerp : De Sikkel. 1938. (85 fr.) R.

HISTORY

[LINDSAY (IAN G.)] 72.03 (41.1 E)
Old Edinburgh. (Cockburn Association.) [With map showing positions of buildings.]

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 28 pp.+pls.+foldg. map. Edin. & Lond. : Oliver & Boyd. 1939. R.

× MS.

DEAS (J. H.) 72.03 (42.61) : 691
Building in Norfolk. . . local materials, . . . their influence on design and . . . construction. (Thesis for Final Examination, July.)

typescript, Ink & Penc. D., & Phot. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 1939.
Presented by the Author.

VERMEULEN (F. A. J.) 72.03 (492)
Handboek tot de geschiedenis der nederlandsche bouwkunst.
2 vols. in 4 (i, text and pls.; ii, text and pls.).
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The Hague : Nijhoff. 1928-31. R.

ARSLAN (WART) 72.033.4 (45 Ver)
L'Architettura romanica Veronese.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". (xi)+247+(ii) pp.+cxxviii pls. Verona : Tipografica Veronese. 1939. R.

Specially bound in vellum.

MARKHAM (VIOLET R.) 72.036 (42) : 92 P
Paxton and the bachelor Duke [of Devonshire].
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. 1935. (orig. £1.) *Presented.*

UPJOHN (E. M.) 72.036 (73) : 91 U
Richard Upjohn architect and churchman.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". xvii+243 pp.+pls. New York : Columbia U.P. ; Lond. : Oxford U.P. 1939. £1. R.

GERSON (H. and O.), architects 72.036.6 (43) : 92 G
Die Architekten brüder Gerson. Introd. by Werner Hegemann.
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". xv+(i) pp.+65+ii pls. Berlin, etc.: Hübsch. [1928.]
Presented by Mr. G. Rosenberg.

BIRCHLER (L.) and others, editors 72.036.6 (494)
*Moderne Schweizer architektur.
Vols. ii, iii. 1939. R. & P. (by subscr.).

DRAWING

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION 72.064 : 744.426.8
Sketch book.
MS. index to all series.

JOHNSON (A. F.) 72.064 : 744.9
Decorative initial letters, etc.

13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. 1931.
Presented by Col. W. G. Pringle.

WOLLIN (N. G.) 72.064 : 92 D + 725.822.93 : 92 D
Despres en Italie. Dessins topographiques et d'architecture, décors de théâtre et compositions romantiques, exécutés 1777-1784.
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 322 pp. incl. pls. Malmö : John Kroon. [1935.]
Presented by the Author.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT

GREAT BRITAIN : PARLIAMENT—ACTS 72.08 [33 : 940.6
Courts (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939 [non-payment of money and non-performance of obligations]. (2 & 3 Geo. 6. ch. 67.)
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 2d. P.

RIVAROLA (J. V.) 72.08 : 333 : 336.2
Tasacion de inmuebles urbanos. Criterios.
7". 101 pp. Buenos Ayres : Vial. 1938.
Presented by the Author [Hon. Corr. Mem.].

GREAT BRITAIN : PARLIAMENT—ACTS 72.08 : 334.1
Building Societies Act, 1939. (2 & 3 Geo. 6. ch. 55.)
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 4d. P.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH 72.08 : 347.23
Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Act, 1939. (Circular 1864.)
leaflet. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 1d. R.

WOODFALL (W.) 72.08 : 347.23
W.—'s Law of landlord and tenant etc.
24th ed. By L. A. Blundell.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". clxx+1431 pp. Lond. : Sweet & Maxwell. 1939.
£2 12s. 6d. (£2 2s.) P. (by subscr.).
Earlier eds. in Reference and Loan Libraries.

- GREAT BRITAIN : PARLIAMENT—ACTS** 72.08 : 347-434] 940.6
Compensation (Defence) Act, 1939. (2 & 3 Geo. 6, ch. 75.)
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 4d. P.
- WALKER-SMITH (DEREK) and CLOSE (H. A.)** 72.08.2
* "The Standard form of building contract" (1939) being a critical annotation of the new form . . . (issued under the sanction of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers) etc.
13". (ii)+iii+148 pp. Lond. : Federated Employers' Press. [1939.]
Presented by the National Federation (2).
- R.I.B.A.** × (06) box
[Contract.] Articles of agreement etc.—. . . where quantities form part etc.
—where quantities do not form part etc.
[Later ed.] each pamphlet. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. 1s. 6d. 1939.
- MINISTRY OF HEALTH**
Annual report : 20th, 1938-39.
Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 5s. R.
- BUILDING TYPES (CIVIL)** 725.121 (485 G)
GOTHENBURG (GÖTEBORG) : RADHUSBYGGNAKSKOMMITÉ
Göteborgs radhus. Om— och tillbyggnad [rebuilding and additions] 1935-1937. Berättelse etc.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 74 pp. [Gothenburg.] 1938.
Presented by Mr. E. L. Bird [A.]
- ARTE EN ESPAÑA (El), series** 725.171 (46 G)
* Nos. 5, 17. Alhambra. By M. Gómez-Moreno.
2 vols. 6". Barcelona. [19—.]
Presented by Mr. S. Rowland Pierce [F.]
To Loan Library.
- SÉZILLE (L. P.)** 725.213
Devantures de boutiques.
13" × 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Paris. [1927.]
Presented by Col. W. G. Pringle.
- MONTECATINI firm, Milan** 725.23 (45 M)
Il Palazzo per uffici [offices] Montecatini. Inaugurato . . . [1938].
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 155 pp.+pls. (col.)+xxx diag. pls. (some folding). [Milan. 1938.] R.
With Ph. print (set of miniatures) inserted.
- KNOOP (DOUGLAS) and JONES (G. P.)** 725.256 (42.12) M
The London Masons' Company. (From Economic History, Feb.)
pam. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". n.p. 1939.
Presented by the Authors.
- BELL (W. G.)** 725.256 (42.12) TB
A Short history of the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers of the City of London.
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". viii+82 pp.+pls. Lond. : H. G. Montgomery. priv. prin. 1938. R.
- SETNICKA (JOSEF)** 725.4 (437 Z)
* Urbanismus. Architektura. Závodu Bat'a a.s. ve Zlín.—. Bat'a works in Zlín.
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Prague. [193—.] Presented.
To Loan Library.
- EDMONDS (REGINALD)** 725.511 (73)
Report on Henry Saxon Snell tour 1936 [prize, 1935]. [Hospitals in the U.S.A.]
typescript, Ink D., Ph. of D., & Ph. [1936.]
Presented by the Author [A.]
- NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE**
Partnership in social effort, *cover title*. Annual report (19th). 1938-1939.
[1939.] 1s. R.
- MINES DEPARTMENT : MINERS' WELFARE COMMITTEE**
Annual report : 17th.—Miners' welfare, 1938.
Lond. : H.M.S.O. [1939.] 1s. 6d. R.
- ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL** 725.75+727.1] 699.895
*Special number : Camps [holiday, school and evacuation]. (13 July.)
13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. 1939. 6d. *To Loan Library.*
- BIEBER (MARGARETE)** 725.822.032.7/8
The History of the Greek and Roman theater.
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". ix+467 pp. Princeton, U.S.A. : U.P.; Lond. : O.U.P. 1939. £1 14s. R.
- CHETTOE (C. S.) and ADAMS (H. C.)** 725.95 : 624.2] 693.55
Reinforced concrete bridge design.
2nd ed. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : Chapman & Hall. 1938. £2 2s. R.
- (RELIGIOUS)** 726.4 : 727.3 (94 M)
MELBOURNE : SCOTCH COLLEGE—[OLD SCOTCH COLLEGIANS' ASSOCIATION]
The Littlejohn memorial chapel. (Arts. by G. R. King and others.) [Scarborough, Robertson and Love, archts.] 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 40 pp. [Melbourne. 1937 or after.]
Presented by the architects, through Mr. J. Kirkland Robertson, A.R.A.I.A., partner.
- WILSON (R. F.)** 726.5 : 282 (41.5 D)
Newman's church [the Catholic University Church, St. Stephen's Green] in Dublin.
pam. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Dublin. 1916.
- POLLEN (J. H.)** 726.5.033.1
Structural characteristics of the basilicas. (From [?] Quarterly Review).
—Both presented by the Hon. Mrs. A. Pollen, through Mr. H. S. Goodhart-Rendel [P.P.].
- SEYMOUR (CHARLES), junr.** 726.6 (44 N)
Notre-Dame of Noyon in the twelfth century. A study in the early development of Gothic architecture. (Yale Historical Publications. History of art, i. Etc.)
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". xxi+202 pp.+pls.+folding pls. New Haven, U.S.A. : Yale Univ. Press ; Lond. : Oxford U.P. 1939. £1 11s. 6d. R.
- FOWLER (JOSEPH)** 726.71 (42.33 S) : 691.21
The Stones of Sherborne Abbey. (Lecture.)
pam. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". [Sherborne. 1938 or —39.] 1s.
Presented by the Author.
- ARCHITECTURAL RECORD** 727.112
* [Special numbers.] Elementary school buildings. (Feb.)
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". New York. 1939. (Abt. 4s.) P. for *To Loan Library.*
- MINISTRY OF HEALTH**
Housing. House production, slum clearance, etc. England and Wales. Position at 31st March, 1939.
1939. 4d. R.
- 728.1 : 333.32
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts. Housing Act, 1936—Section 91. (Circular 1839.) [Repayment of subsidy : postponement due to military services.] leaflet. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. 1939. R.
- 728.1 : 940.6
Housing Acts. Postponement of work. (Circular 1866.) leaflet. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Lond. : H.M.S.O. 1939. 1d. R.
(To be continued)

Review of Periodicals

Attempt is made in this review to refer to the more important articles in all the journals received by the Library. None of the journals mentioned are in the Loan Library, but the Librarian will be pleased to give information about price and where each journal can be obtained. Members can have photostat copies of particular articles made at their own cost on application to the Librarian.

LABORATORY

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD (NEW YORK). 1939. September. P. 34.

Reinforced concrete basin and laboratories for the testing of ship models, by Rear-Admiral Ben Moreell, U.S.N.

INDUSTRIAL

ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL. 1939. 24 August. P. 276.
Model for a factory for a firm of manufacturing chemists on the Bath Road, Bucks, by Raymond McGrath [A.]

THE BUILDER. 1939. 6 October. P. 522.
Factory for Roche Products, Welwyn Garden City, by Professor O. R. Salvisberg and C. Stanley Brown.

ELECTRICAL REVIEW. 1939. 8 September. P. 317.
Article on systems and layouts of factory lighting, by W. Robinson.

WELFARE, COMMUNITY BUILDINGS, CAMPS, ETC.

R.I.B.A. JOURNAL. 1939. 14 August. P. 929.
ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. 1939. 11 August. P. 160.

Standardised timber camps for the National Camps Corporation, Ltd., by Sir John Burnet, Tait & Lorne [FF.]

OFFICIAL ARCHITECT. 1939. September.
Number on the Prestatyn holiday camp, North Wales, by W. H. Hamlyn [F.], Chief Architect to the L.M.S. Railway. Fully illustrated. Very complete descriptions of the method of construction and the progress of the work are given, and an informative account of the daily life of the camp.

L'ARCHITECTURE D'AUJOURD'HUI (PARIS). 1939. July.
Number on buildings for holidays and leisure, dealing with holiday colonies in France; the equipment of colonies; a Spanish project for the permanent housing of 1,000 war orphans, using standardised elements; some large Italian children's colonies; the organisation of the National Forests camps in the U.S.A.; and various hostels, swimming pools, beaches and athletic clubs. Good plans, photographs and information.

BYGGMÄSTAREN (STOCKHOLM). 1939. No. 25. P. 326.
Two schemes for a children's island summer colony, by Ahibom and Zim Dahl, and Backström and Reinius.

HOSPITALS, CLINICS, ETC.

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. 1939. 8 September. P. 255.

THE BUILDER. 1939. 15 September. P. 430.
New hospital at Llandudno, by C. B. Pearson & Son [F./A.], accommodating 67 beds, with total accommodation for 134 when completed.

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. 1939. 22 September. P. 306.

Extensions to the Acland Nursing Home, Oxford, by R. Fielding Dodd [F.]

THE BUILDER. 1939. 8 September. P. 398.
Joint clinic at Stoke-on-Trent, providing school medical

and ante-natal and child welfare services, by J. R. Piggott and W. I. Watson [A.A.]

IRISH BUILDER AND ENGINEER. 1939. 2 September. P. 739.
Nurses' Home, Nenagh General Hospital, by Vincent Kelly [F.], with accommodation for 26 people.

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD (NEW YORK). 1939. September. P. 38.

Small building containing examination rooms, X-ray, and laboratory for a physician with a large practice in St. Louis, by H. Armstrong.

MATERIALS

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD (NEW YORK). 1939. August. P. 75.

Article on clay products in modern building design, by J. H. Hansen.

CONSTRUCTION

WOOD. 1939. September. P. 374.
Article by R. V. Boughton on timber beam and slab floors, with particular reference to methods in the U.S.A. Comparative costs are given for ordinary timber floors, floors with steel beams and timber joists and thin flooring, and for timber beam and slab floors.

NATIONAL BUILDER. 1939. September. P. 57.
Construction details of external window sunblinds and shutters.

JOURNAL AND TRANSACTIONS OF THE SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS. 1939. July-September. P. 113.
Article on the welding of reinforcement in concrete construction, by Marcel Semet.

DE 8 EN OPBOUW (AMSTERDAM). 1939. No. 17/18.
Enquiry into the properties of different types of external walls on modern buildings in Holland, undertaken by the C.I.A.M.

A.R.P.

ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL. 1939. 14 September. P. 363.
A.R.P. shelter in the basement of a block of flats in Porchester Gate, W., accommodating 100 people, by Howard Leicester & Partners [F.J.]

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. 1939. 15 September. P. 279.

Report on occupancy tests of air-raid shelters for factory workers at the works of J. & E. Hall, Ltd.

THE BUILDER. 1939. 15, 22, 29 September, and 6 October. P. 425, 457, 489, 519.

Articles on camouflage, dealing with the approach, methods, technique, and paints, by R. Myerscough-Walker.

THE BUILDER. 1939. 1 September. P. 368.
A sports pavilion adaptable as a first-aid station, St. Mary's Cray, Kent, by Major T. Watson.

LIGHT AND LIGHTING. 1939. September. P. 185.

Article on A.R.P. lighting, dealing with special external lighting, fittings to give uniform illumination of low intensity, interior screening of lighted interiors, light locks, coloured lighting, etc.

Notes

NATIONAL REGISTER

Arrangements have been made by the Registrar General to meet the request that a person who is trained in some other occupation than his or her present one should be able to have it recorded in the National Register.

The return of "Personal occupation" must state the occupation or calling ordinarily followed for a livelihood on National Registration Day. This return is in no way affected by the new arrangement. A supplementary return, however, may be made if desired on a special postcard, N.R.Z. This postcard will be supplied on personal application at the local National Registration Office. In Scotland this is the office of the local registrar. In England and Wales it is almost invariably at the local Council Offices. Any person wishing to make a supplementary return of occupation must wait until his or her identity card has been delivered by the enumerator.

A supplementary occupation must be one in which a person notifying it was "fully trained by actual practice or experience as a means of livelihood," and does not include skill derived solely from pursuit of a hobby.

EMERGENCY MEASURES OF THE A.A.S.T.A.

The A.A.S.T.A. was founded after the Great War to deal with the intolerable conditions of employment caused by the sudden surplus of labour resulting from demobilisation. During the present war it will seek constantly to avoid the recurrence of such troubles and will remain alert to safeguard in every way the interests of salaried architects and allied technicians.

At a special meeting of the Council of the Association held at High Holborn on Tuesday, 5 September 1939, measures for carrying on the work of the Association during the war period were decided. It was resolved to appoint an Emergency Executive Committee for the duration of the war with powers to conduct any business of the Council or of any Committee between such times as it may be possible to convene full meetings of the Council or Committees. The personnel of the Emergency Executive Committee will consist of the following: V. L. Nash, A.R.I.B.A., President (C.W.S. Architect's Office); C. T. Penn, A.R.I.B.A., Chairman of Council and of A.R.P. Committee (Middlesex County Council); R. D. Manning, A.R.I.B.A., Chairman of Keystone Committee (Middlesex County Council); E. A. D. Tanner, A.R.I.B.A., Member of Council (War Office).

Every effort will be made to continue the work of the Association as normally as possible. Contact has been made with the various Government Departments and advice is being sought concerning the best use to be made of the services of members not enrolled on the National Service Panels of either the R.I.B.A. or the Chartered Surveyors' Institution. Members anxious for further information in this connection are invited to communicate with Head Office.

The Employment Register will be continued and every effort made to extend its scope as widely as possible.

Certain changes are proposed to adapt "Keystone" to the new situation, but plans are not yet completed. It is suggested that attention should be concentrated on A.R.P. with reports of what the various authorities are doing, and illustrated notes describing developments in technique as they are made. The Council regard "Keystone" as an invaluable medium for

linking members and for maintaining the continuity of the Association.

Arrangements for the Annual General Meeting and supper at the Ambassador's Hotel, London, on Saturday, 21 October, have been cancelled. Efforts will be made to arrange the Annual General Meeting for some convenient date before the end of the year.

Head Office of the Association is being moved from High Holborn to temporary rooms at 57 New End, London, N.W.3. Although only a little safer from the point of view of aerial attack than Holborn, the new address in Hampstead will be much more convenient for the staff who are all engaged in some form or other of National Service work.

R.I.B.A. EXAMINATIONS

It is hoped to hold the Intermediate, Final and Special Final Examinations at the usual times this year, which are as follows:—

Intermediate Examination.

17, 18, 20, 21 and 23 November. (Last date for receiving applications, 17 October.)

Final Examination.

29 and 30 November, 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7 December. (Last date for receiving applications, 27 October.)

Special Final Examination.

29 and 30 November, 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 December. (Last date for receiving applications, 27 October.)

Candidates who wish to sit for the examinations should send in their applications to the Secretary of the R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, London, W.1, as soon as possible, and in any case not later than the specified dates.

SPECIAL FINAL EXAMINATION, ORAL

The Oral Examination for the R.I.B.A. Special Final Examination will in future be conducted from 10.30 a.m. on the Wednesday (i.e., the day following the Examination) instead of from 3.30 p.m. on the Tuesday after the close of the Examination.

THE INSTITUTE'S APPEAL

The following is the tenth list of donations received up to 7 October in response to the appeal issued to all members and honorary members and students on 16 December 1938.

Members who are contemplating making an increased payment of subscription whereby the amount of the increase will be payable to the appeal fund are reminded that if they are prepared to enter into an agreement for the payment of such increased subscription for a period of seven years or more they will be entitled to deduct income tax at the standard rate from the amount by which the subscription is increased.

Full particulars were published in the issue of the JOURNAL for 6 February, and can be obtained on application to the Secretary, R.I.B.A.

DONATIONS

	£	s.	d.
W. R. B. Bertram [A.]	..	..	1 1 0
Charles H. Calvert [F.]	..	..	25 0 0
A. Challinor [L.]	..	..	1 1 0
A. S. Cruickshank [A.]	..	..	2 2 0
The late James Ledingham [Ret.F.] (Legacy)	102	0	3

The donations and increased subscriptions or contributions received and promised and Bank interest up to 7 October represent a total of £6,765 5s. 3d. This amount does not include increase of subscriptions or contributions promised for which no definite period is stated.

Membership Lists

ELECTION : 9 OCTOBER 1939

In accordance with the terms of Byelaws 10 and 11, the following candidates for membership were elected at the Council Meeting held on Monday, 9 October 1939.

AS FELLOWS (23)

- BLAMPIED : ROY CHARLES [A. 1920], Jersey.
 COHEN : JACOB [A. 1928].
 COULDICK : HORACE CHARLES CARRINGTON [A. 1930], Hove.
 DAVIES : IDRIS [A. 1921], Nairobi.
 HAWKINS : FREDERICK GEORGE BRUDENELL-BRUCE [A. 1910], Perth, Western Australia.
 HODGES : ALFRED WALTER [A. 1924], Hong Kong.
 MONTAGU : ADRIAN ALBERT VAN [A. 1933].
 ROSE : CHARLES HOLLAND [A. 1909].
 SILE : GUY WHITEHALL [A. 1923], Leamington Spa.
 THAN : ON [A. 1913], Rangoon.
 TOOTHILL : JOHN CEDRIC PENMAN [A. 1920], Sheffield.
 TWENTYMAN : ALFRED RICHARD, M.A. [A. 1931], Wolverhampton.
 WALKER : REGINALD BECKWITH [A. 1922], Brighton.
 WALLIS : DOUGLAS THOMAS [A. 1927].
 WILLIAMSON : JOHN [A. 1921], Cardiff.
 WILSON : RALPH R., B.A. [A. 1910].
 WINBOURNE : GOODMAN GEORGE, P.A.S.I. [A. 1920].
 WOOD : KENNETH [A. 1896].

And the following Licentiates who have passed the qualifying Examination :—

- HONEY : ROBERT LLEWELLYN, F.S.I., Chatham.
 JOHNSTON : JAMES STEWART, Leith.
 NICHOLS : DENNIS CUBITT.
 REYNOLDS : LEONARD ARTHUR, Beverley.
 STEEL : WALTER REGINALD, Luton.

AS ASSOCIATES (20)

- ASHWORTH : JOHN ATKINSON [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool]. Exempted from Final Examination, Liverpool.
 BILLIMORIA : HORMUSJI JAMSHEDJI [Final], Bombay.
 BLACK : JAMES [Passed five years' course at the Glasgow School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination], Airdrie.
 CARR : EDWARD RIDEHALGH [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination].
 CLOKEY : THOMAS [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination], Liverpool.
 COLES : RONALD HENRY [Passed five years' course at the Leeds School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination], March.
 GILLING : MALCOLM GLYNN, Dip.Arch.(L'pool) [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination], Liverpool.
 KARANGAOKAR : DATTATRAYA GANGADHAR [Final], Bombay.
 LUPTON : JOHN TENNISWOOD [Passed five years' course at the Leeds School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination].
 MELLOR : TOM [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination], Lytham St. Annes.
 MONKS : LEE, Dip.Arch. [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester. Exempted from Final Examination], Radcliffe, Lancs.
 MONTGOMERY : THOMAS N. [Passed five years' course at the University College, Dublin. Exempted from Final Examination], Dublin.
 MORRISSEY : WILLIAM OLIVER BERNARD, B.Arch. [Passed five years' course at the University College, Dublin. Exempted from Final Examination].
 NICOL : ARTHUR WYLLIE [Passed five years' course at the Architectural Association. Exempted from Final Examination].

PORRI : ARTHUR PIERRE [Passed five years' course at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University of London. Exempted from Final Examination].

PORRI : LOUIS ADRIAN, B.Sc. [Passed five years' course at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University of London. Exempted from Final Examination].

SARMA : RAJAMANI RAMNAREYAN [Final], Bombay.

SEPHTON : JOHN DEAN, B.Arch.(L'pool) [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination], Southport.

VERDON : ROBERT BERNARD, B.Arch.(L'pool)Hons. [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination], Blackpool.

WELBOURN : ALAN EGERTON [Passed a qualifying Examination approved by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects], Adelaide, South Australia.

AS LICENTIATES (7)

CHAPMAN : FREDERICK GEORGE.

COOPER : EDWARD PRIESTLEY, M.C., York.

DAVIDSON : PHILIP LOWTHIAN, Keswick.

ELLIS : HUGH COLIN, Swansca.

FARQUHAR : ROWLAND EDWARD.

JONES : JOHN FOX.

SMITH : GEORGE WILLIAM, South Shields.

ELECTION OF STUDENTS R.I.B.A.

The following were elected as Students R.I.B.A. at the meeting of the Council held on 10 July 1939 :—

Cameron, Charles Norman, Elgin. Cotton, George Thomas, Wordsley, near Stourbridge. Chavasse, Joseph Raymond, Wolverhampton. Cuthill, Edmund Robertson, Broto-Ferry, Angus. Deane, Phillip Allen, London. Dickinson, Albert Dennis, Leeds. Dunbar, Francis Benson, London. Fraser, Richard, Edinburgh. Gamble, Ronald James Richard, Leicester. Gibson, George Fortune, Blackheath. Gidden, Miss Mary, Muswell Hill. Hickley, William Dennis, Hatch End. Kennan, John Joseph, Leamington Spa. Langston, Albert Henry, Leytonstone. Outred, Matthew Jack, Wellington, New Zealand. Philpott, Richard Bernard, Leigh-on-Sea. Radford, Miss Ann Maitland, Potters Bar, Middlesex. Scollay, Edward John, Kingsbury. Smith, Miss Susan Babington, London. Stones, Robert Charles, Manchester. Tickell, Richard Carton, Heswall Hills, Cheshire. Trent, Miss Jennifer Mary, London. Twigg, Laurence Henry, Alloa.

Notices

ASSOCIATES AND THE FELLOWSHIP

Associates who are eligible and desirous of transferring to the Fellowship are reminded that if they wish to take advantage of the election to take place on 8 January 1940 (overseas candidates 8 April 1940) they should send the necessary nomination forms to the Secretary R.I.B.A. not later than Saturday, 11 November 1939.

THE USE OF TITLES BY MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE

In view of the passing of the Architects Registration Act 1938, members whose names are on the Statutory Register are advised to make use simply of the title "Chartered Architect" after the R.I.B.A. affix. The description "Registered Architect" is no longer necessary.

Members who are qualified for registration and have not already done so are reminded of the importance of applying for such registration without delay. Full particulars will be sent on application to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

FH 3/18
16 October 1939

Competitions

The Council and Competitions Committee wish to remind members and members of Allied Societies that it is their duty to refuse to take part in competitions unless the conditions are in conformity with the R.I.B.A. Regulations for the Conduct of Architectural Competitions and have been approved by the Institute.

While, in the case of small limited private competitions, modifications of the R.I.B.A. Regulations may be approved, it is the duty of members who are asked to take part in a limited competition to notify the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. immediately, submitting particulars of the competition. This requirement now forms part of the Code of Professional Practice in which it is ruled that a formal invitation to two or more architects to prepare designs in competition for the same project is deemed a limited competition.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND : NEW CATHEDRAL

The General Trust Board of the Diocese of Auckland invite members of the New Zealand Institute of Architects resident in New Zealand or overseas to submit in competition designs for a new Cathedral.

Assessor : Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, R.A. [F.]

Premiums : £1,000, £400, £200 and £100.

Last day for submitting designs : 15 November 1939.

Last day for questions : 31 May 1939.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to (a) The General Trust Board, P.O. Box 652, Auckland, New Zealand, or (b) The Secretary R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, London, W.1. Deposit £1 1s.

COMPETITION RESULTS

SLough : GENERAL HOSPITAL

1. Mr. Herbert H. Clark [A.]

HUTTON, NEAR PRESTON, LANCS. : POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND TRAINING SCHOOL

1. Messrs. J. C. Prestwich & Sons [F./L.]

2. Messrs. Bradshaw Gass & Hope [FF./A.]

3. Messrs. Herbert Jackson [A.] and Reginald Edmonds [A.]

WATFORD : NEW FIRE STATION

1. Mr. David W. Aberdeen, B.A. [A.]

2. Mr. Thomas F. Haughey, B.Arch., A.N.Z.I.A.

Commended : Mr. Birkin Haward [A.]

MEMBERS' COLUMN

Owing to limitation of space, notices in this column are restricted to changes of address, partnerships vacant or wanted, practices for sale or wanted, office accommodation, and appointments vacant. Members are reminded that a column in the Advertisement Section of the Journal is reserved for the advertisements of members seeking appointments in architects' offices. No charge is made for such insertions and the privilege is confined to members who are definitely unemployed.

A list of members seeking positions with prospects of partnership is kept at the office of the R.I.B.A. and members who are desirous of having their names placed on this list are requested to send particulars of their qualifications, age, etc., to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Since the start of the war, the R.I.B.A. has received notice of between three and four hundred changes of address—some permanent, for the duration, others

obviously temporary. We hope in the near future to publish as complete a list as possible, but for the time being we are refraining from publishing any list.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

Mr. W. DAVID HARTLEY [F.] and Mr. E. G. VINAN HIVES [L.] are no longer in partnership, and it is requested that the title "Hartley & Hives" be not used in connection with either of the former partners of the firm. Mr. W. David Hartley will continue practising independently at 14 Mackenzie Street, Slough, and Mr. Eric G. V. Hives at Abbey Corner, 2a King's Road, Reading.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION TO LET

STAPLE INN (sixteenth-century building recently reconstructed).—To let in original half-timbered portion, whole or part of 6 rooms; excellent light; every convenience; moderate rent; air raid shelter available.—Reply Box 2099, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

WELL-LIT partly furnished ground floor office to let in the Temple. Suitable for architect or draughtsman who will be willing, if required, to render assistance to a member of the Institute. Rent £60 per annum, inclusive of lighting and heating.—Apply, Box 4109, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

OFFICES TO LET—FOR WAR DECENTRALISATION

F.R.I.B.A. offers one or two rooms in own newly built office suite, single-storey, detached building, containing every convenience of modern design. Unfurnished, 30s. to 40s. per week (would furnish if desired), plus proportion of electric lighting, heating and telephone. Situated just off the Great West Road in excellent position for quietude, yet within 5 minutes of library and P.O. Buses, District and Southern Railways for City and Metropolis.—Write or telephone for appointment to view : WALTER E. CROSS, The Studio, Osterley Road, Isleworth, Middlesex (HOUNslow 0211).

EMERGENCY HELP

MEMBERS with good offices in Bloomsbury will give assistance in finishing work to other members obliged to close down. Will also fully represent architects now in the provinces upon the most reasonable terms in sharing overheads and would consider any other form of co-operation with another firm.

CORRESPONDENCE TUITION

MR. C. W. BOX [F.] is continuing his correspondence courses of tuition for R.I.B.A. and T.P.I. Examinations from his office and studio, 115 Gower Street, W.C.1.

MR. EDWARD G. THACKER [A.]

We regret that the name and address of Mr. Edward G. Thacker [A.] have been inadvertently omitted from the Register of Associates in the new edition of the Kalendar.

Mr. Thacker was elected A.R.I.B.A. in 1933. His present address is : "Haywood," Ladbroke Road, Redhill, Surrey. Telephone No. Redhill 579.

CORRECTION

THE ADDRESSES OF MR. F. GORDON TRROUP [F.] ARE : BANK CHAMBERS, CARFAX, HORSHAM, SUSSEX (HORSHAM 1144), AND AMIES MILL, HORSHAM, AND NOT AS PRINTED IN THE NEW EDITION OF THE KALENDAR.

It is desired to point out that the opinions of writers of articles and letters which appear in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL must be taken as the individual opinions of their authors and not as representative expressions of the Institute.

Members sending remittances by postal order for subscriptions of Institute publications are warned of the necessity of complying with Post Office Regulations with regard to this method of payment. Postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary R.I.B.A. and crossed.

Members wishing to contribute notices or correspondence must send them addressed to the Editor not later than the Tuesday prior to the date of publication.

Back numbers of the JOURNAL can be obtained at the price of 1s. 9d., including postage throughout the world. For orders of more than six copies discounts are given. Orders must be prepaid.

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